

KOREA UPDATE - January 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy New Year! May 2020 Bring You and Your Family All the Very Best!

•**Award Winning Korean Film Playing in Early January:** South Korea's new movie "[Parasite](#)" has been nominated for three Golden Globe Awards and is playing to rave reviews in the U.S. It is described as a "darkly comic Korean thriller." From "Rotten Tomatoes:" Bong Joon Ho brings his work home to Korea in the pitch-black modern fairytale. Meet the Park Family: the picture of aspirational wealth. And, the Kim Family, rich in street smarts but not much else. Be it chance of fate, the two houses are brought together and the Kims sense a golden opportunity. Masterminded by college-aged Ki-woo, the Kim children expediently install themselves as tutor and art therapist, to the Parks. Soon, a symbiotic relationship forms between the two families. The Kims provide 'indispensable' luxury services while the Parks obliviously bankroll their entire household." [Parasite](#) is showing **through Thursday, January 9, 2020 daily at 3:15 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. at [Cinema 21](#) at 616 NW 21st Avenue, Portland, OR 97209.** The film is in Korean with English subtitles.

•**[KSO](#) Board Meeting Announced:** Mr. Jung Bang Oh, President of the [Korean Society of Oregon](#), has announced the first KSO board meeting of the 2020. **The meeting will be on Friday, January 3, 2020 at 12:00 noon at the Korean Community Center at 7650 SW 81st Avenue, Portland, OR 97223.** The board will be planning events for 2020. For questions for additional information, please contact Mr. Jung Bang Oh at ojb17@hanmail.net.

•**Korean Storytime Comes to [Beaverton City Library](#):** Ms. Jihye Park, a faculty member of the [Oregon Korean School](#), and the [Beaverton City Library](#) have announced plans to team up to provide "Korean Storytime" during the first quarter of 2020. If the sessions are well attended, the library plans to extend the Storytime sessions as part of its normal schedule. **The Korean Storytime sessions will be offered from 3:00 – 3:45 p.m. the first Saturday of each month (Saturdays on January 4, February 1, and March 7, 2020) at the Beaverton City Library at 12375 SW 5th Street, Beaverton, OR 97005.** The sessions will be in the Korean language and you are encouraged to bring your children or grandchildren (ages 3-6) to the sessions. Please mark your calendars now and support this important event! In making the announcement to the community, Ms. Park cites her appreciation for the support of

the [Oregon Korean School](#) Principal, Ms. Sunhee Ho, who continues to encourage and support the Korean Storytime series.

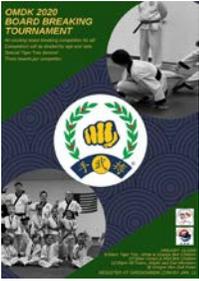
•**[Literary Seminar on Min Jin Lee](#)**: Think book club meets your favorite college English class. A wonderful opportunity to discuss award winning books, [Pachinko](#) and [Free Food for Millionaires](#) in community. There are scholarships and reduced rates available (more info at the bottom of the page at the [link](#)). **There are six sessions on Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. from January 8-February 19, 2020. (No meeting on January 15th).** Your guide will be [Hannah Kim](#). In addition, this seminar includes a ticket to see Min Jin Lee speak at her sold-out [lecture](#)! You can sign up at [this link](#). Feel free to direct any questions to the guide at: hannahkim@alumni.usc.edu.

•**KIMWA Members to Celebrate Korean Lunar New Year!**: KIMWA (Korean Intermarried Womens' Association) will celebrate the Korean Lunar New Year at a member's home on Saturday, January 11, 2020, according to Clara Meyer, President of KIMWA. This annual event brings KIMWA members and their families together with games, good conversation, and of course, lots of delicious Korean food! For more information, please contact Clara Meyer by email at:

clarameyer@hotmail.com. Thank you KIMWA for the work that you do for the Korean community!

•**[AKAP](#) Monthly Meeting Announced**: The board of [Adult Korean Adoptees of Portland \(AKAP\)](#) will meet on **Sunday, January 12, 2020 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the home of one of the board members**. The meeting is for board members only. [AKAP](#) held a very successful and well attended Korean Culture night last month!

•**Korean American Day Celebrates Korean Immigration to Oregon**: The [Korean Society of Oregon \(KSO\)](#) will host a lunch and organize entertainment to celebrate this special day. The event will be held on **Monday, January 13, 2020 at 12:00 noon at the Korean Culture Center at 7650 SW 81st Avenue, Portland, OR 97223**. Please join us! For questions or information, please contact Mr. Jung Bang Oh, President of KSO, at: ojb17@hanmail.net.



•**Oregon Moo Duk Kwan Holds “Board Breaking**

Tournament.” On **Saturday, January 18, 2020**, Oregon Moo Duk Kwan will hold their annual “Board Breaking Tournament.” **It begins at 9:00 a.m. at the Oregon Moo Duk Kwan School located at 1115B McVey Ave, Lake Oswego, OR 97034.** Oregon Moo Duk Kwan trains in the Korean martial art of Soo Bahk Do (Tang Soo Do). The public is welcome to attend this event. For more information, please contact Master Jared Rosenthal at (503) 867-3763 or email oregonmdk@gmail.com.

Moo Duk Kwan may be translated as “Institute of Martial Virtue.” Moo Duk Kwan was founded by Grandmaster Hwang Kee and is one of the original martial arts schools of Korea. This martial art is devoted to improving human relations through training in the traditional Korean martial art of Soo Bahk Do.



•**Eugene Concert to Honor Korean War Veterans and Korean Adoptees and Their Families:** The Eugene/Springfield Korean Central Church will host its annual **Korean Music and Dance Concert on Sunday, January 19, 2020**

from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at 3360 Game Farm Road, Springfield, OR 97477. This is the 24th year of the concert! A Korean music performance team led by Professor Myungwon Yoon of Dankook University will join the Eugene/Springfield Korean Central Church choir and Eugene’s fan dance team for an exciting musical performance. As always with Korean events, there will be plenty of Korean food to enjoy! The event is free and open to the public. Korean War veterans, Korean Adoptees and their families are encouraged to join us! For questions and more information, call 541-510-5794.



•**Joe Kye Concert in Hillsboro!** Born in Korea and based in Portland, violinist-looper and vocalist Joe Kye has drawn rave reviews since launching his music career in 2013, “discharging world[s] of emotion” and delivering “divine messages” with his lush string loops and eclectic style (*Guitar World*). **Kye will perform on January 24, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at the Walters Cultural Arts Center at 527 E. Main Street, Hillsboro, OR 97124. Tickets**

are \$18 in advance and \$22 day-of-show. Tickets are available at https://joekye.bpt.me/ or by calling 503-615-3485. Kye blends indie rock, jazz, classical, jazz, pop, and world folk to create a unique sound that “leaves everyone in awe” (*Sac News*

and Review). With his innovative use of digital effects and looping, Kye weaves together diverse textures, catchy melodies, and rich, sweet vocals to create songs that groove, uplift, and empower listeners. Kye's sound described by The Sacramento Bee as, "A single violinist...one mesmerizing symphony." Join us for an exhilarating night that is sure to be one of the highlights of the season. sori.nyc/joekye.

•**[Well-known Pianist, Dasol Kim, performing in January](#)**: Among his many noteworthy engagements, [Dasol Kim](#) is currently performing the complete cycle of the 32 Beethoven Piano Sonatas in Switzerland and Korea over a four year period. He is a sought-after concerto soloist who has appeared with the New York Philharmonic in Seoul, Tonhalle Orchestra Zurich, Berlin Konzerthaus Orchestra, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Berlin Chamber Orchestra, MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony, Concerto Budapest, Belgium National Orchestra, and Korea's KBS Symphony Orchestra, among others. There will be two performances: **Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, January 26, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Both performances will be in Lincoln Hall at Portland State University at 1620 SW Park Avenue, Portland, OR 97201.** Tickets are approximately \$50.

•**[Portland State University Offers Classes on Korea in Winter 2020](#)**: From January 6 through March 15, 2020, [Portland State University](#) will offer a number of courses about Korea or related to Korea. Professor Danny Kim will teach a new course titled: "Modern Korea: A Transnational History Through Diaspora." The class will look at Korean history through the lens of the Korean-American, Korean-Japanese (zainichi), Korean-Chinese (Josenjok), Korean-Russian (Goryeo saram) and Korean-Vietnamese (Lai dai han) communities. Professor Junghee Lee will teach "Intro to Asian Art" and "South and Southeast Asian Art," which cover some material on Korea. If you are interested in Korean language, Professor Young Ju Han will teach two sections of "First-Year Korean," and one section of "Second-Year Korean." The class schedules for these courses can be found on the [PSU](#) website at: <https://www.pdx.edu/asian-studies/winter-courses-2020>. Remember that classes at [PSU](#) are free for Oregon residents who are over 65 years of age.

•**South Korea's [SM Line](#) to Begin Service to Portland This Month**: Following lengthy discussions and negotiations between the Port of Portland and [SM Line](#) of Korea, the carrier has announced plans to start weekly container shipping service to the Port of Portland's

Terminal 6 in January 2020. [SM Line](#), which is headquartered in Seoul, has a global office in Chandler, Arizona and the two sides recently signed a contract, announced while Governor Kate Brown was in Seoul. Terminal 6 has been idle for months and [SM Line](#) is currently the only container line calling at the Port. The service is expected to benefit regional farmers and shippers. A reception to celebrate the new service will be hosted in early February.

Korean War Veterans Monthly Meeting



•**[Chosin Few](#) Monthly Meeting:** The [Chosin Few](#) group will hold its monthly meeting **on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the High Rocks Restaurant at 915 E Arlington Street, Gladstone, OR 97027.** The group meets the second Thursday of each month. For more information about the group, please call Don Mason, President, at 503-641-2383.

•**Korean War Veterans' Meeting/Richard L. Quatier Chapter/Vancouver:** The Richard L. Quatier Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association will hold its monthly meeting at 10:00 a.m. (coffee and donuts are served from 9:00 a.m.) **on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 in the Boxcar Room at the "[40 et 8 Bingo Parlor](#)" at 7607 NE 26th Avenue, Vancouver, WA 98665.** The group always meets the third Wednesday of each month. For more information about the group, contact Ed Barnes, Commander, at 360-695-2180.

•**Korean War Veterans' Meeting/Oregon Trail Chapter:** The Oregon Trail Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association will hold its monthly meeting at 12:00 noon on Tuesday, January 28, 2020 at Denny's in Clackamas at 15815 SE 82nd Drive, Clackamas, OR 97015. The meal costs is usually \$10. The group normally meets the fourth Tuesday of each month. For more information about the lunch/presentation, contact Mary Gifford, KWVA Secretary/Treasurer, at megifford@comcast.net or at 503-655-2778.

•**Korean Association of Korean War Veterans – Oregon (KAKWVO) Elects New Officers:** The members of KAKWVO met last week and elected a new group of officers for the organization. Congratulations to all of the new officers! Honorary President: Byung Moon Lee (LTC, Tet. ROKMC); President: Hee So Kwon; Inspector: Kwang Yol Lee; Inspector: Chon Ho Tae; Senior Advisors: B.J. Kim and H.J. Yu. KAKWVO is an organization for

Koreans who fought in the Korean War. For more information about KAKVWO, please contact B.J. Kim at bjkim521@gmail.com or at 503-314-9101.

EVENTS OF NOTE:



•**Eugene Forum on “Current State and the Future of the Korean Peninsula” Was a Great Success!**: The [Council of Korean Americans](#) and [Holt International](#) co-sponsored a very successful and well-attended lecture featuring [Kathleen Stephens](#), President/CEO of the [Korea Economic Institute of America](#) and former U.S. Ambassador to Korea; [Dr. Kee Park](#) of [Global Health and Social Medicine](#), Harvard Medical School and Director of North Korea Program for the [Korean American Medical Association](#); and [Dr. Abraham Kim](#), President of the [Council of Korean Americans](#). **The forum was held at the [Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon](#) in mid-December.** Over 100 people attended the event and the reception which followed. Ambassador Stevens served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Korea in the ‘70s so several former volunteers enjoyed meeting and talking with her after the event. Susan Cox, Honorary Consul for the Republic of Korea in Eugene, had the idea for the lecture and she coordinated this wonderful event. Thank you Susan Cox!



•**OKF Reports a Successful Year!** The [Oregon Korea Foundation \(OKF\)](#) held its holiday celebration in December and Chairman H.J. Yu made several encouraging announcements. The daughters of Ken Choi, former [OKF](#) Chair, honored their father by adding to the Choi’s Family Trust recently. In addition, gifts to the endowment were received from Mrs. Okja Hom, from the OKF’s 12 Friends, and from Mr. and Mrs. Woo Hyong Choi. These gifts totaled \$21,200 for the endowment. In terms of OKF’s support for our community, the [OKF](#) provided grants to seven organizations, including: [Portland Art Museum](#) (Reception for Korean exhibit); [Portland State University](#) and [Portland Community College](#) (for Korean Language support); [Oregon Korean Performing Arts](#) group; [Baker Prairie Middle School](#) (Korean language class); [Oregon Korean School](#); and the Korean American Seniors’ Association. **Congratulations to OKF on a wonderful year!**



•**Chosin Few Celebrates Christmas!:** Approximately 50 guests joined Korean War veterans in early December to celebrate the holidays at the annual Christmas party for the Chosin Few. Approximately eight veterans attended, but they were joined by many family members and friends. The Chosin Few is a veterans group of former U.S. soldiers who fought in the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir (known in Korea as the Battle of Jangjin Lake) during the Korean War. The battle is often described as the bloodiest of the Korean War and thousands of U.S. soldiers died as they were outnumbered by 10 to 1 by Chinese forces.

UPCOMING EVENTS / February 2020

•**Korean Consulate to Offer Consular Services in Portland in February:** Date and venue TBA. Notification to come!

If you know of upcoming Korea-related events, please contact Greg Caldwell.

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